Approved For Release 2006/10/17 : CIA-RDP79M00097A000300010027-9

DCI/IC 73-0619

IHC-MM-414
22 June 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: COINS Meeting, 20 June 1973

1. The attendees at the meeting are listed in Attachment A. The purpose of the meeting was to present a status review of the COINS and specifically discuss the COINS II, follow-on program. This was accomplished quite well by [redacted] and [redacted]. Attachment B is a handout provided by [redacted] 25X1 25X1 25X1

2. At this point in time no additional FY73 funds are required for COINS; however, the COINS II improvement program report of the Communications Netting Group (Ad Hoc) to make the system interactive, is due by 10 July 1973 and will propose FY74 and FY75 funds be made available. Adding up the numbers on p. 2, Attachment B, the FY74/75 funding is [redacted] excluding items 5 and 6. 25X1

3. Item 4, a "Study of Multiple Retrieval Language Problems in COINS" is estimated at [redacted] I believe this number to be low by at least a factor of five. Attachment C is a copy of a proposal by [redacted] to develop a UNIFORM QUERY Language. The problem is that each host computer in a network has its own query language. For a distributed data base concept considering "n" host computers, each would have their own set of files. This means that a terminal that would want to access each of the host computer files would have to have "n" sets of procedures (handbooks). This is confusing and causes time delays. One solution is a single standardized query language used on all host computers. This is only practicable for a new network implementation plan or for a long range evolutionary modification program where host computers would adopt the new standard query language. This is desirable for the long term, however, it will never be fully achieved. A more desirable solution is to develop a standardized query language together with a front end communications processor. This would be a mini-computer system that would make the terminals interactive and also provide the translation of the terminal making the query, to the query language of the host computer. [redacted] 25X1 25X1 25X1

solution is only the former; i.e., to make the network interactive and not address the query language problem. In this case it is not realistic to conceive of an analyst using a number of different handbooks to retrieve files from the network computers. This is what has been implemented at CIA; i.e., to have an operator assigned to the terminal. This reduces the capability and flexibility of the system.

4. The following tasks should be considered:

a. Institute a two to three month study to determine the number of files and potential COINS users for the next five years. (NSA's estimate of five plus terminals for the next year appears to be unrealistic.) Also consider centralized vs. distributed data bases for the network.

b. Somewhat in parallel with a. above, consider the network impact upon replacement of NSA's and NPIC's 494 computers (NPIC has an RFP on the street to replace their 494's and NSA is also actively considering the replacement of their 494 computers) and other host computer changes contemplated or planned for the next five years. Also examine in detail the interface of COINS within IDHS, WWMCCS, CIA's plans and State's plans for teleprocessing systems.

c. Initiate an outside study contract to develop a standardized query language together with specifying a mini-computer teleprocessor to make the system interactive and perform the query language translation.

5. Tasks a., b. and c. should be conducted before the COINS system is made interactive (i.e., COINS II). If the mini-processor is correctly sized, I believe the COINS system can be improved in an evolutionary manner. That is, made interactive first and then implement the software translation package after the query language has been developed.

6. The following alternatives should be considered for implementing the above:

a. Task ASD/I to accomplish the above and to submit a report with recommended courses of action, with funding estimates, within six months.

b. Task the USIB-IHC to accomplish the above and to submit a report with recommended courses of action with funding estimates (contractors support will be required).

c. Task the COINS Project Manager through ASD/I to do the above.

d. Do nothing.

Recommendation: Alternative a. with periodic monthly reports to the IC/IHC Support Staff.

7. The reorganization plan for the IHC, if implemented, would be able to do the above tasks. The Guidance and Evaluation Subcommittee would Task a. Tasks b. and c. would be conducted by the Systems Subcommittee and Telecommunications and Teleprocessing Subcommittee. The IHC/SS would direct and integrate the study. Some contractor support would be required. Implementation would be handled by COINS P.M.O. Since the Executive Agency responsibility has been assigned to ASD/I vice IC Staff or IHC, the study task should be assigned to ASD/I. It should be noted, however, that ASD/I does not have any management responsibility over the CIA or the State Department and therefore the DCI, using the IC/IHC/SS, should assume management supervision over this ASD/I project. 25X1A

Atts (3)

Attachment A
to IHC-MM-414

LIST OF ATTENDEES

[redacted], CCG/IC
25X1 CCG/IC
[redacted] CCG/IC
25X1 CCG/IC
Mr. C. Briggs, PPB/CIA
25X1 [redacted] PPB/CIA
CRS/CIA
NSA
, NSA
IHC/IC
, IHC/IC

CURRENT ACTIONS

I. COMMUNICATION NETTING GROUP (AD HOC)

Report due 10 July 1973.
Expect 60-90 days for formal coordination
Implement Phase I (Specification) while plan as being coordinated. (5 months).

II. TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - COINS II

.SUB SYSTEMS

Communications (CNG)
Security
Network Monitoring
Management Information
Retrieval Language
File Processors

.IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

.RESOURCES REQUIRED

III. DEVELOPING RDT&E COMPUTER SECURITY PROGRAM FOR COINS II.